Laira Green. 29 Octr. 1839.

My dear Carlino,

I write, not to lose time, within an hour after receiving your letter. We have now a Post Office here; so I get letters the evening they arrive. Mr. Marker calls me the *father* of the measure — how tall are you?

It seems you are not bound to Mr. Chorley, *morally* bound, — I never look on *legal*, that is, knavish binding, unless practised towards me. I do not desire you to leave Mr. Chorley, unless it can be done with honour. Nay, it is to be proved by Dobbs' reply that you can leave him *to your own advantage*. I agree to what you and your uncle say; and, therefore, it is fit you should know what Mr. Moncur says. The best way is to copy every part of his letter relating to the subject. His letter is dated 21st. instt. from London.

"I have had a correspondence with Mr. Dobbs, engineer of Aix-la-Chapelle *about your son* — he declined answering my letters on the subject, until he could see me; and this morning he favoured me with a call. I mentioned to him that your son was 18 or 19 years old — well educated — could draw at sight — had a decided tendency towards mechanics — and I believed was sufficiently acquainted with practical drawing of machinery as to draw to a scale — but, even if not, could soon by practice, quickness of sight, and attention, make himself decidedly useful. He told me that was good. I added that I believed he had himself made the model of a steam engine; and although these are mere childish feats, yet they weigh something with a man of experience, as showing the inclination. It was at last determined that I should write to you, and that you should address him a letter. *The matter you may almost consider as concluded*, if you and your son are agreeable. You will now learn something further for your information. My second nephew, Richard, now 24 years old, has been with Mr. Dobbs for ~~four~~ two years, and wishes to leave for a better position in the same town. I was pleased to hear that Dobbs has intrusted him with setting up no less than eight steam engines in different parts of Germany — and, more, that Dobbs has made six or seven Locomotives for the Brussels line of Rail Road, all of which have been made under the superintendence or assistance of Richard. "The fact is" (said Dobbs) he may go where he will in Germany or in England; he is fitted for all engineering; and I, of course, will not stand in the way of his doing better for himself. I can take the son of your friend in his stead, if he possesses the requisite patience, perseverance, and industry." If, therefore, you think well of his chance, write immediately to "Messrs Dobbs, of Aix la Chapelle, Mechanikers"; and, making use of my name, say that you should be desirous of placing your son with them; and that, for the first twelve months, you do not require any salary — and something in a similar position to Richard Manner — that, at the expiration of twelve months, they may pay him what they think he is worth — and I doubt not the answer will be favourable — But if they say, let him remain for two years without salary, close the bargain at once, and send Charles off at once by the Ostend Steamer, with a letter to Messrs Dobbs, and also one to my nephew Richard, who will most likely get him board and lodging with him. Now as to the expence of his living — I should say £40 a year is enough; clothes I can say nothing about; but Charles must make up his mind to wear a Jacket &c &c in the factory. × × × × × × Dobbs, an Englishman, is a kind hearted, clever, worthy man; and his factory ranks as high as any in Germany; it is very extensive, and the work is general machinery, and Richard (who understands these matters) says is turned out of hand as well as in England. I look upon Richard's prospects in a few years as brilliant; it all depends upon himself; he has learnt to live upon twelve shillings a week — so much the better. Do not allow Charles too much money — it spoils them from exertion. × × × × Charles must learn the German language; a few lessons &c × × × × The position of an engineer in Germany intitles him to the highest respect, if his education and manners are those of a gentleman."

The above is a true copy of all that is interesting to you. My first intention was to bid *you* write to Messrs Dobbs, on account of my greater distance for a correspondence; which ever the cause of my hurry to finish this letter. But it soon appeared better that I should write to Messrs Dobbs; which I have done, requesting them to send their answer to you at Midhurst — and thus more time is saved. I am now writing on Wednesday the 30th, and my letter to them is now upon the road. This will be despatched to-day or tomorrow, for there is now no need of hurry; and I wish first to say the furniture is arrived. I told Messrs. Dobbs that I proposed you should work for them gratis for one year, and afterwards to be paid by them according to your value. I mentioned the cause of delay in my writing, and stated you could honourably quit Mr. Chorley, with whom you have been three months. I forgot to say you are above nineteen; but I informed them you are well learned in geometry and algebra. My letter was business- and civil; and I regretted Mr. Rendle's absence, else he could give them a professional account of your ability. Should their answer be favourable, it will therefore be addressed to you; and let me hear of it immediately. Should they, as Mancur hints, insist on two years service without pay, yield to the demand forthwith. There is no cold water thrown over my hopes except this — poor Mancur's swans have hitherto invariably proved to be geese.

A walking-stick for me ought to be exactly three feet, less three quarters of an inch, long.

Tell your uncle, with love to your aunt, that I sincerely thank him for the trouble he has taken in this business; and that I agree with him in his opinion of the justice and fairness of the settlement with Chorley — should Mancur's swan, for the first time, not prove a goose.

I now break off, to go into Plymouth and inquire if the chairs are arrived.

Plymouth. 30 Octr. The Brunswick now sails only once a week. It will not come in till Friday.

Your affectionate father,
Chas. Brown.

Mr. May sells ink and pens — devil take them both!

M^rs. Carline Brown,
Sandrock Cottage,
Midhurst

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OC 17 1833

your affectionate father
Chas. Browne

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